An Essay
on

Allopathy & Homoeopathy

Respectfully Submitted

To the Faculty of the

Homoeopathic Medical College

of Pennsylvania

on the

29th day of January

One thousand eight hundred & fifty three,

by

Coates Preston

of Pennsylvania.

Allopathy & Homoeopathy.

Since the days of Hippocrates Allopathy has flourished and grown, until it has become a Great Monster, clothed in the garb of respectability, which is sanctioned and sustained by diplomatic honours, conferred by official Dignitaries who occupy high positions in the scientific world.

Mankind, however ignorant, have ever cherished respect for that which is presented to them under the name of Science. Learning even among the ignorant, has always to some extent, been respected; for the ignorant feel their imbecility and look to their superiors in know-

-ledge as giants in power, and in humility they entreat their aid without knowing whether benefit may be derived or not. Ignorant of the laws that govern their beings, men run into errors which threaten danger and ruin to the human organism and are driven as they think, to the necessity of appealing to those for assistance, who have received diplomas to practice medicine.

For more than two thousand years have the human family subjected themselves to a system of medical treatment without investigating the principles upon which such treatment is based. The mass of men have never asked the question whether the allopathic System is based on scientific principles or not, or whether any fixed and definite law governs

the votaries of this profession in their administration of remedies to disease. Thus in darkness and ignorance have they trusted their lives and fortunes in the hands of those whose principles of practice, if any they have, are not understood.

Had that faith which has been so earnestly given, been crowned with success equivalent to its strength, had the Profession of Allopathy fully verified the declaration, that their system is founded upon true science, by the most favourable records of disease treated and cured under their "heroic practice", the world might still have remained silent on this theme; the medical investigations which have stirred the world, and set mind in commotion might still have been spared; but the dark and dismal

records of disease treated Allopathically could not be looked upon with indifference, in an age of moral and scientific progression, The noble aspirations of those who would minister health and happiness to the diseased and suffering, have awakened deep research in the Medical arena. The time honoured System has been attacked and investigated with the most scientific judgement and precession; weighed in the ballance of conciencous & scientific truth, by pure and noble hearted men; and found devoid of any fixed law or principle upon which to stand, Although the defenders of Allopathy claim a law upon which they assert their System is based; (Contrarie Contrarious) yet the best attested facts fully prove, that no such law governs their practice

which may be regarded as a fortunate
circumstance for many of the victims who
are subjected to their treatment; for their
deviation from this law, may be traced
what little success they have in practice,
which depends upon the law of "Similia"
establishing the fact, that their ignor-
ance or non comprehension of the law, by which they profess
to be governed, is all that sustains them
in their empirical career.

How lamentably true is it, that of
all sciences which have ever been directed
by the common intrest of man, that which
has been applied to the treatment of disease
for the restoration of health, upon which
mans highest intrest and happiness depen-
ds, is the most pregnant with error & mys-
tery. From Galen, with his humoral theory
of the second century down to the fermen-

lative theory of Sylvius & Willis, and from thence to the present day, the Old School of Medicine has suffered one continual routine of changes in theory and practice, conceived by speculators & experimenters who have ever failed to establish any settled principle upon which the Profession could unite as a guide in practice.

Disease has been very correctly asserted to be vital action disturbed by a wrong condition of the animal organism, or an obstruction in the medium through which the vital principle circulates. To remove this obstruction Nature in a majority of cases is fully competent; but when every effort on her part fail to repair the disorded tissues in consequence of long and continued violations of hygienic laws, which operate against her recuperative powers, it becomes necessary to

administer remedies which will operate to expell or convey from the System the enemy which has retarded the free & healthful circulation of the vitalizing principle and thus restore the natural secretions and establish equilibrium of vital action throughout the system. To do this Allopathy attacks the System with its crude and poisonous drugs, with the view of driving out the enemy by impairing and delapidating the temple that gives it shelter and support. If drugs fail in prostrating Nature to the desired extent, the Lancet, Blisters, Cups, & Leeches, each in turn is called into requisition. With such a host of deadly agents it is not surprising that inflamatory action may in many cases be subdued, and the tide of disease arrested, by so far destroying the tone & sensibility of the tissues as to render it inert, but in a majority of such cases, life is sunk below the

verge of resuscitation and the patient dies a victim to medical treatment. But Nature is powerful in her resistance to invaders, and when her Sanctuary becomes infested with cruel enemies a dreadful struggle ensues which sometimes results in sufficient reaction of the vital powers to overcome the inhuman treatment received at the hands of Legal Quackery, and life is spared for a season to be tormented with the poisonous influence of drugs and their concomitents.

But a brighter day is dawning upon the subjects of medical treatment, Allopathy as formerly practiced is fast loosing respect among the more intelligent class, & Old School Practicianes are beginning to deal out their drugs with greater caution, many already renounce the practice of using such massive doses & are gradually emerging toward the

Homoeopathic Attenuations. The traditions and theories which have been handed down from so many generations and practiced impirically, must must fall before the light of Scientific truth, set forth in the Homoeopathic System of Medicine which is established on the true law of Cure, (Similia Similibus Curantur) and admits of no deviation from this great principle of medical truth. All speculations and theoretical dogmas are forever excluded from its basis. The Laws upon which it is founded & has been demonstrated with unexceptionable precission and can as certainly be relied upon as the law which governs the combination of Chemical agents. So far as the principle of cure is concerned there never has been any difference of opinion among Homoeopathic Physicians; as soon would they forfeit their respectability as scientific men, by doubting the existance

of the law of gravitation as the Law of "Similia"
Like all other natural Sciences, Homoeopathy
has been established by long repeated and
effectual experiments so satisfactory as to
place it on a level with them as a Science
and as far above them in a moral view
as the preservation of life & health is above
physical & Mechanical conveniences

Hahnemann, will ever receive the
credit of reducing medicine to a Science,
for he was the first to discover an invari-
able law of therapeutics upon which to erect
a system, that is bounded in its resour-
ces for the treatment of all forms of disease
which afflict our race

With the great Law of cure for a
starting point the Homeopathic Physician
enters upon his investigations with the full
conciousness that his System is founded
upon an unerring principle

which if properly understood and strictly
adhered to, will effect all that can be effected
for the cure of disease. It is true that Hom-
-oeopathic Physicians may be unsuccessful.
They may be unworthy the position they
occupy; but their want of success must be attributed to their
own incompetency and not to the System
they practice. The Homoeopathist must
stand or fall upon his own merits and not
upon the merits of Homoeopathy. Not so
with the Allopathist. he embarks upon
a Sea of troubled waves without rudder or com-
-pass and is dashed by the billows of tradi
tionary and speculative theories until
he is lost in the great labrynth of mys-
tery and doubt. His sad fate cannot be
attributed to want of ability, or lack of
energy and perseverance in the profession
he has chosen, but in his attempt to

pursue a System which has not fixed principle of theory or practice; which has successively adopted and then rejected as worthless as many hypothesis and modes of treatment as could be enumerated in a Volume.

But the Homoeopathic System of Medicine is yet in it infancy and is very far from that perfection which the investigations of enquiring minds will yet shed upon it. A System so extensive in its resources for improvement, could not be perfected in half a century. Natures store of remedial agents is far from being exhausted. New additions are yearly being made to our materia Medica; new drugs are continually being proved on the healthy system and brought into requisition for the successful treatment of disease. With such unlimited means of improvement

the votaries of this Science are
afforded a theme of the deepest interest
and utility. With the great law of
cure ever to direct them, they may
call to aid Natures inexhaustable supply
of agents for its speedy and effectual
execution. The complicated variety of
disease which afflicts the the humans
family must necessarily require the
most diversified treatment. Not only
the greatest variety of remedies are need
ed, but various attenuations of each in
order to meet every Symptom and
temperment. Hence the necessity of the
Homoeopathist becomming an indefati-
gable student. His Studies have only com-
menced at the close of an ordinary
College course. Each day of his profession
-al career may present new phenomina

in disease and its treatment which will open avenues to more extensive study & research, that will lead him upward and onward in the march of improvement and perfection of a Science which is destined to become the only acknowledged & reliable one ever presented to the world for the effectual treatment of disease.